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NOTIFICATION.

Ootacamund, August 18, 1920.

No. 161-*A.*—The following Royal Proclamation is published for general information:—

GEORGE V, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND AND OF THE BRITISH DOMINIONS BEYOND THE SEAS, KING, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH, EMPEROR OF INDIA.

To my Viceroy and Governor-General, to Princes of Indian States and to all my subjects in India of whatsoever race or creed.

GREETING,

In Our message to you of December 23, 1919, We assured you of Our affection and goodwill and of the deep interest with which We welcomed the coming stage of political development in India. As a signal token of Our interest and regard, We expressed Our hope that Our dear Son the Prince of Wales would visit India next winter and inaugurate on Our behalf both the Reformed Legislatures and Chamber of Princes. That hope unhappily cannot be realized. The unceasing and devoted labours of Our Son in other parts of Our Empire have laid so heavy a burden upon his strength that it would not be possible for him at so early a date to undertake another protracted and arduous journey without assured danger to his health.

We have accordingly decided that his visit to India must for the present be deferred. To this decision We have come with a full appreciation of the disappointment which it will cause to the Princes and peoples of India, but We are confident that they will share Our anxiety to safeguard the health of Our dear Son.

It is Our full intention that the Prince of Wales shall make himself personally acquainted with Our Indian Empire, its loyal peoples and its many interests, and We purpose that, if he has by then recovered from the fatigues of his present labours, the visit now postponed shall be accomplished in the winter of next year.

Meanwhile it remains Our desire to mark in a special manner Our sense of the momentous step which India is now taking toward greater constitutional freedom.

Although it has not pleased Providence that Our dear Son should carry Our greetings on this occasion, We shall send in his stead Our uncle His Royal Highness Field Marshall THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT to inaugurate on Our behalf the Chamber of Princes, the Council of State and the Indian Legislative Assembly, to take his part in other ceremonies which he would have performed and to convey to the Princes and peoples of India the messages which it had been Our hope to entrust to him.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor in Council.)

R. A. GRAHAM,
Acting Chief Secretary.

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